

REMARKS

Claims 1-14 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1-4, 6, 10 and 11 are amended. Support for the amendments to claims 1-4, 6, 10 and 11 can be found in the specification as originally filed, for example, at page 2, line 9 – page 6, line 12, at page 24, lines 1-10, and at page 25, line 1 – page 34, line 12; and in original claims 1-4, 6, 10 and 11. No new matter is added by these amendments.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-14 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter that Applicant regards as the invention. While Applicant does not necessarily agree with the rejection, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-4, 10 and 11 have been amended to more clearly set forth the subject matter therein and that claims 1-14 are not indefinite.

In particular, the Office Action first asserts that the use of the term “may be” with respect to the terms m, m' and m'' is unclear. While Applicant does not necessarily agree with this rejection, claims 1-4, 10 and 11 have been amended for clarity. Specifically, the phrase “may be the same or different for respective repeating units within the cyclic structure” has been replaced by the phrase “is[are] independently selected for each respective repeating unit within the cyclic structure.”

The Office Action also asserts that the structure representing formula (5) is incomplete in claim 3. By this Amendment, formula (5) in claim 3 is amended to include the inadvertently omitted variable n and the complete right bracket.

In addition, the Office Action asserts that claim 6 is unclear because the relationship between the molded article and coating is unclear, and that claim 11 is unclear because the relationships between the production of a molded article and the process steps of "coating onto a substrate" and "drying the coating" are unclear. Applicant respectfully submits that methods known in the art for manufacturing molded articles include coating molding, as well

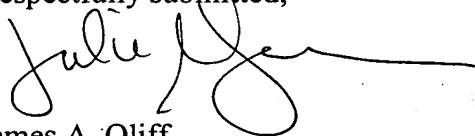
as, for example, cast molding, dipping molding and cast coating. *See e.g.*, Specification, page 24, line 1 – page 34, line 12. Thus, one of ordinary skill in the art would understand the relationships between the molded article and coating molding as set forth in claim 6, and between the production of a molded article by coating molding and the process steps of "coating onto a substrate" and "drying the coating composition" as set forth in claim 11.

For at least the above reasons, Applicant submits that claims 1-14 are not indefinite under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-14 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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